

Pre-eclampsia is more than a vascular disease

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SUMMARY

To date the exact cause of PE is unknown. Despite this, studies have shown that PE is a multifactorial disease related to pregnancy which involves various pathways and mechanisms that are interconnected. The present thesis presents important data that highlight the fact the PE is not only a vascular disease with three interesting contributions: a) higher sFlt-1 found in the third trimester have lead others to explore its predictive utility for first trimester PE screening together with other biochemical and biophysical aspects; b) the altitude of residency seems to be a factor imposing differences in the levels of NO and CoQ₁₀; and c) our data confirm that endothelial dysfunction is also present in the fetal circulation.